

WHAT DISEASES SHOULD MY PET BE PROTECTED AGAINST?

WHY VACCINATE? Many serious diseases can be prevented by vaccination. Even if always kept indoors, your pet can be exposed to viruses carried in the air, dust, or on clothing. Vaccination is inexpensive protection against costly treatments or the premature death of your pet. Booster immunizations are necessary to continue protection.

PUPPIES and DOGS

- **DHL (DISTEMPER, HEPATITIS, LEPTOSPIROSIS)** are widespread, contagious and deadly diseases. Nearly every dog will be exposed during its lifetime making vaccination a must.
- **CANINE COUGH** or Tracheobronchitis, is an upper respiratory infection causing a persistent, dry, hacking cough. The disease may last several weeks and is highly contagious.
- **PARVOVIRUS & CORONAVIRUS** are intestinal infections resulting in viral diarrhea, fever, vomiting and depression. Transmitted through direct contact with an infected dog's feces or urine, both are highly contagious and life threatening.
- **Heartworm** is a life threatening disease wherever mosquitoes are present. Your pet must be tested prior to starting preventive medication. Annual testing is recommended even with year-round use of medication. **Preventive medication is a must!**



HOME CHECKLIST FOR PET HEALTH

Please use this checklist on a regular basis. You can discover many problems before they become serious and cause undue pain and expense.

MY PET

- ...is acting normal -- active and in good spirits.
- ...has a normal appetite with no chewing or swallowing difficulties.
- ...breathes normally, without straining or coughing
- ...urinates in the usual amounts and frequency.
- ...has normal appearing bowel movements
- ...walks without stiffness, pain or difficulty.
- ...has healthy looking feet and short nails.
- ...has a full, glossy coat in good condition.
- ...has skin that is free from dry flakes and not greasy.
- ...is free from fleas, ticks, lice or mites.
- ...has eyes that are clean and debris-free.
- ...has moist nose, free from discharge.
- ...has clean, white teeth free from plaque and calculus.
- ...has gums that are pink with no redness and non-offensive breath odor.
- ...has a body that is free from lumps/bumps as you run your hands over its entire body.

***CALL A VET IF YOU ANSWER NO TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS!**

KITTENS and CATS

- **FELINE LEUKEMIA** is now considered the leading cause of cat deaths. FeLV breaks down the cat's ability to fight off infection. The cat usually dies of a disease it would normally be able to resist. Effective FeLV vaccines are available to protect uninfected cats.
- **FELINE RESPIRATORY DISEASES** (Rhinotracheitis, Calici, Chlamydia) are highly contagious and widespread. These diseases are easily spread from cat to cat. Even a cat that seems healthy can infect your pet. Chances are high that your cat will be exposed.
- **FELINE PANLEUKOPENIA**, also known as distemper, is highly contagious and can be fatal. Symptoms include depression, loss of appetite, fever, vomiting and diarrhea. Nine out of ten cats with distemper may die. Since the disease is easily transmitted from cat to cat, chances are very high that your cat will be exposed.
- **FELINE INFECTIOUS PERITONITIS** (FIP), is an incurable, usually fatal viral disease. Vaccination is your pet's only protection.



- **RABIES** is a fatal infection of the nervous system that attacks all warm-blooded animals including humans. It is a public health hazard and risk to all pet owners. There is no cure for Rabies. Vaccination is your pet's only protection.
- **FLEAS** can cause anemia and even death in young pets. If swallowed, fleas can transmit tapeworms to your pet. Flea bites can cause allergic reactions resulting in a painful, difficult-to-cure skin disease. A control program is needed for your pets, home, and yard **AT THE SAME TIME**. Your veterinarian is the best person qualified to prescribe the proper products for you to control these parasites.
- **SPAYING or NEUTERING** is recommended for all pets. This surgery may significantly reduce breast tumors, testicular disease, cancer and certain undesirable behaviors. The surgery is recommended when your pet is about six months old, but can be done at any age.

- **DENTAL EXAMINATIONS** should be done at least annually. Periodontal disease affects most pets and can lead to infection in the liver, kidneys, and heart. Regular examination, professional scaling, and proper dental home care are necessary for good pet health.
- **INTESTINAL PARASITES** threaten your pet's health. Large numbers can cause intestinal blockage, bloody diarrhea, and even premature death. Microscopic examination of your pet's stool should be done regularly for early detection and treatment.
- **GERIATRIC WORKUPS** help detect many of the problems caused by aging (kidneys, liver, heart, arthritis, dental, etc.) Early detection can lengthen your pet's life. Proper treatment will improve your pet's quality of life.

Caution: Lyme Disease, caused by ticks, may pose a serious health risk to you and your pet. Ask your vet for details.